

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.1258**

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TO:	The Honorable Michael L. Fair, Chairman, Senate Corrections and Penology Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rodney Grizzle & Harry Bell		
DATE:	April 26, 2006	SBD:	2006184

AUTHOR:	Senator Fair	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	24-3-220
SUBJECT:	Inmates Attending Funeral Services		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1258 would amend various sections of the S.C. Code of Laws so as to establish a procedure to allow inmates confined to the Department of Corrections to attend funeral services of certain individuals.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Department of Corrections indicates this Bill would have a fiscal impact of approximately \$145,580 per year, in personal service and transportation costs. The agency estimates that there would be approximately 720 funeral transports per year, with a per trip cost of \$202.19 for inmates from minimum security facilities and \$348.59 for inmates from medium and maximum security facilities. The difference in cost comes from the additional correctional officer required for inmates from medium and maximum security facilities. Personal service cost was based upon a \$15.09 per hour Correctional Officer salary multiplied by the average 9.7 hour trip time. The transportation cost is based upon the 34.5 cent per mile rate multiplied by the average round trip length of 161.8 miles.

Section (C) states that the Department may collect a reasonable charge for transportation, which can be collected from a third party, or if available from the inmates trust account. The Department is unable to determine the amount of revenue that may be collected in order to offset expenses associated with the funeral transportation.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

Enactment should have a minimal impact on expenditures since section (C) of the Bill allows the sheriff to collect a reasonable charge from a third party for the actual expenses incurred.

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Department of Corrections notes that transporting only inmates to funeral's that have the ability to pay would create an inequity among the inmate population.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget